

Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 ACDA-19 IO-14 SCCT-02

SY-04 DRC-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 /134 W

----- 048364

R 061242Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2691

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 3118

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XF, US, IS

SUBJ: INFORMATION MINISTER YARIV ON SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT
AND US UNDERTAKING TO GOI RE TERRORISM

1. INFORMATION MINISTER YARIV JUNE 5, IN FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE SINCE TAKING OVER NEW CABINET POST, GAVE STRONG POSITIVE ASSESSMENT OF SYRIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT AND COMMENTED ON US UNDERTAKING TO ISRAEL REGARDING POSSIBLE TERRORIST ACTIONS FROM SYRIA AS DESCRIBED BY MRS MEIR IN KNESSET MAY 30. HIS APPEARANCE RECEIVED PRIME TIME TV COVERAGE.

2. ADDRESSING GATHERING OF LECTURERS AT ISRAELI INFORMATION CENTER, YARIV SUMMARIZED SIGNIFICANCE OF AGREEMENT BY NOTING, "IF WE HAD NOT CHOSEN THIS DIRECTION THE ALTERNATIVE WOULD HAVE BEEN WAR." HOWEVER, HE ADDED, "IT IS IMPORTANT THAT IT SHOULD BE CLEAR TO US--AND NO LESS SO TO THE
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OTHER SIDE--THAT WE SHALL NOT ACCEPT ANY CONDITION AND ANY

AGREEMENT JUST BECAUSE THE ALTERNATIVE IS WAR." HE SAID
EVEN AFTER SIGNING OF AGREEMENT UNCERTAINTY REGARDING SYRIAN
INTENTIONS REMAINS. "IT WOULD BE NAIVE TO THINK THAT WITH THE
SIGNING WE ARE ALREADY ON THE ROAD TO PEACE. WE ARE ON THE
ROAD WHERE THERE IS A CHANCE THAT IT WILL LEAD US TO FURTHER
SETTLEMENTS WHICH WILL BE A WAY TO PEACE. OUR OWN FORCE IS
THE PIVOTAL POINT WHICH DETERMINES OUR STEPS AND CONSIDERATIONS.
SINCE THE SEPARATION AGREEMENT WITH SYRIA CONTRIBUTES TO OUR
MILITARY STRENGTH, WE MAY SOBERLY WELCOME THE AGREEMENT
AS AN ACHIEVEMENT WHICH IS GOOD FOR ISRAEL."

3. REGARDING CONCERN THAT AGREEMENT MIGHT OPEN WAY FOR
TERRORIST ACTIVITIES FROM SYRIA, YARIV SAID THAT ISRAEL RECEIVED
FROM US A WRITTEN UNDERTAKING RECOGNIZING ITS RIGHT TO ACT
AGAINST TERRORISTS PENETRATING ITS TERRITORY AND PROMISING IT
POLITICAL SUPPORT ON THIS SUBJECT. HE THEN READ THE SAME TEXT
IN ENGLISH THAT MRS MEIR HAD READ TO KNESSET (TEL AVIV 2911)
AND TRANSLATED IT INTO HEBREW, AFTER WHICH HE SAID, "THROUGHOUT
THE HISTORY OF ISRAEL WE HAVE NEVER RECEIVED A DOCUMENT
CONTAINING SUCH THINGS."
VELIOTES

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